THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

§

APPLICANT: Runge, et al § ART UNIT:

FILED: April 10, 2001

SERIAL NO.: 09/832,069 § **EXAMINER:**

FOR: Mitochondrial DNA Damage as

Predictor of Coronary § DOCKET:

Atherosclerotic Heart Disease § D6179CIP

Assistant Commissioner of Patents **BOX Patent Application** Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Dear Sir:

JAN 1 6 2002

Preliminary to the examination of the above-referenced application and in response to a Notice of Incomplete Reply mailed on September 21, 2001, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 20.